

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-02

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O 042121Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8254

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

S E C R E T CARACAS 3630

PARIS FOR DEVINE US DELEGATION PREPCON

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: ENRG VE US

SUBJ: TACTICS FOR FORTHCOMING PREPCON AND CONSUMER

PRODUCER CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 75019

1. CALL ON MINISTER OF MINES AND HYDROCARBONS VALENTIN HERNADEZ LATE AFTERNOON APRIL 3 BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LUERS AND OF POLICY PLANNING STAFF LUIGI EINAUDI PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY FOR CHAGE ASENSIO TO CONVEY US VIEWS ON SUBJECT CONFERENCES, AND REQUEST COOPERATIVE WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH VENEZUELAN DELEGATION TO PREPCON.

2. HERNANDEZ, WHO RETURNED FROM SAUDI ARABIA APR 2, LISTENED CAREFULLY BUT DIDN'T PROMISE ANYTHING. HE CONFIRMED THAT MINISTER PEREZ GUERRERO WILL MEET IN PARIS WITH OTHER PRODUCER/LDC PARTICIPANT COUNTRIES PRIOR TO PREPCON TO WORK ON COMMON POSITION. HE GAVE FURTHER DETAILS ON PEREZ GUERRERO MISSION, SAYING THAT THE MINISTER FLEW FIRST TO VIENNA FOR SHORT PARTICIPATION IN OPEC SESSION, THEN TO GENEVA FOR IRON ORE PRODUCERS MEETING APR 2-3. HERNANDEZ THEN SAID IT NOT CERTAIN WHETHER PEREZ GUERRERO WILL STAY FOR APR 7 PREPCON AFTER HIS PRE-PREPCON STRATEGY SESSION

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APR 4-6. PEREZ GUERRERO COULD RETURN TO VENEZUELA, HE SAID,

AND SOMEONE ELSE GO TO PARIS FOR CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, HERNANDEZ
CONFIRMED THAT HE PERSONALLY WILL NOT ATTEND SINCE MEETING WILL
NOT BE AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL.

3. EMBASSY IS CONFIDENT THAT MINES MINISTRY DELEGATE TO PREPCON,
ALBERTO FLORES, WILL BE BRIEFED ON OUR PRESENTATION TO MINISTER.
HE WILL BE AWARE OF PRESENCE OF DEVINE IN PARIS. EMBASSY
BELIEVES IT IS UNLIKELY THAT ANYONE BUT PEREZ GUERRERO WILL LEAD
VENEZUELAN DELEGATION, UNLESS PEREZ GUERRERO PERSONALLY CONCLUDES
FROM HIS STARTEGY SESSIONS IN PARIS THAT PREPCON WILL BE NON-
STARTER WHICH HE SHOULD AVOID.

4. CHARGE ALSO INFORMED FINANCE MINISTER HURTADO OF
DEVINE'S PRESENCE AT PREPCON DURING COURSE OF CONVERSATION IN

WHICH HURTADO STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF CONSUMER/
PRODUCER CONFERENCE FOR FUTURE US/VENEZUELAN RELATIONS.
CHARGE EMPHASIZED THAT DEVINE WOULD BE PRESENT FOR SPECIFIC
PURPOSE OF FACILITATING EXCHANGE OF INFO WITH
VENEZUELAN DELEGATION.
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